



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 10995-2330

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
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| Juro Ozeki et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 1796 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 10/524,135 |) | Examiner: Patrick Dennis Niland |
| |) | |
| Filed: April 5, 2006 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: Polyphenylene Ether Based Resin |) | Confirmation No.: 2415 |
| Composition |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

In the Final Office Action of July 22, 2009, the Examiner continued to reject claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Shiraki in view of Coran.

Claim 1 relates to a polyphenylene ester based resin composition that comprises:

- (a) a polyphenylene ether based resin and optionally a styrene based resin;
- (b) a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound; and
- (c) a clay that has been surface treated with a silane compound.

Shiraki discloses a polyphenylene ether resin (component (a) of the present invention) and a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound (component (b) of the present invention). Further, Shiraki discloses clay as an example of a reinforcement or filler which may be incorporated into